Georgia House of Representatives



SESSION REPORT

House Budget & Research Office (404) 656-5050

2023 Session Report – Key Legislation

HB 18 Supplemental appropriations; State Fiscal Year July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023

By: Rep. Jon Burns (159th)

Through the Appropriations Committee

<u>Final Bill Summary</u>: HB 18, the Amended Fiscal Year 2023 budget, is set by a revenue estimate of \$32.56 billion. This is a 7.8 percent increase, or \$2.36 billion, over the original Fiscal Year 2023 budget. The bill and tracking sheet may be found on the House Budget and Research Office website.

HB 19 General appropriations; State Fiscal Year July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024

By: Rep. Jon Burns (159th)

Through the Appropriations Committee

<u>Final Bill Summary</u>: HB 19, the Fiscal Year 2024 budget, is set by a revenue estimate of \$32.4 billion. This is a 7.4 percent increase, or \$2.2 billion, over the original Fiscal Year 2023 budget. The bill and tracking sheet may be found on the House Budget and Research Office website.

HB 31 Conservation and natural resources; Hazardous Waste Trust Fund; dedicate proceeds of certain hazardous waste fees

By: Rep. Debbie Buckner (137th) Through the Ways & Means Committee

<u>Final Bill Summary</u>: HB 31 amends O.C.G.A. 12-8-95, relating to the Hazardous Waste Trust Fund, by dedicating hazardous waste management and substance reporting fees collected by the state to the Hazardous Waste Trust Fund.

HB 87 Nontraditional Special Schools Act; enact

By: Rep. Chris Erwin (32nd)

Through the Education Committee

<u>Final Bill Summary</u>: HB 87 amends O.C.G.A. 20-2-154.1 relating to alternative education programs and charters to provide for the transition of system-collaborative charter schools to completion special schools by July 1, 2023. Any system-collaborative charter school that did not transition to become an alternative charter school by July 1, 2021, will operate as a state chartered special school. If the state chartered special school does not transition to a completion special school by July 1, 2023, the school will cease operating upon expiration of its current charter with the State Board of Education. The board may not expand the current attendance zone of the school.

The bill establishes Article 31C of Title 20, which creates the 'Completion Special Schools Act'. The board will adopt policies for the establishment, funding, and operation of completion special schools, which focus on dropout recovery/prevention or high school credit recovery for grades nine through 12.

The board is authorized to provide up to \$5 million in grant funding to encourage and authorize the creation of new completion special schools, subject to appropriation. The board will adopt policies for the dissolution or temporary dissolution of a completion special school upon the recommendation of the state school superintendent for failure to comply with the requirements of Article 31C.

HB 88 Coleman-Baker Act; enact

By: Rep. Houston Gaines (120th)

Through the Judiciary Non-Civil Committee

<u>Final Bill Summary</u>: HB 88, the 'Coleman-Baker Act', requires the head of an agency or their designee to review a cold case murder when requested in writing, and to determine if a full reinvestigation would result in the identification of probative investigative leads or a likely perpetrator. The review must: determine what

procedures may have been missed initially; whether witnesses should be interviewed or re-interviewed; if forensic evidence was properly tested and analyzed; and perform an update of the case file using the most current investigative standards to the extent it would help develop probative leads.

The agency must conduct a full investigation if, at the agency's sole discretion, the review concludes that a full reinvestigation would result in additional, previously unidentified probative leads or a likely perpetrator. An investigation cannot be fully conducted by a person who previously investigated the case, and only one full reinvestigation can be undertaken at one time with respect to the same victim. If a full reinvestigation is completed and a likely perpetrator is not identified, no additional investigation will occur for a period of five years from the conclusion of the reinvestigation, unless there is newly discovered material evidence.

Each law enforcement agency is required to develop a written application and procedures, and the agency must provide a written notification of receipt of the application as soon as reasonably possible. If a request does not meet the criteria, then the agency must provide the requestor with a letter stating that final review is not necessary. The law enforcement agency has six months from receipt of the application to complete its case file review and conclude whether or not a full reinvestigation is warranted. The agency can extend the time limit once for a maximum of six months if the agency finds that it would be unfeasible to comply with the original time limit.

The Carl Vinson Institute of Government will establish and maintain a case tracking system and searchable public website with information about the applications, extensions, number of reinvestigations, and statistical information on suspects, arrests, etc.

This process applies to any cold case murders that occurred on or after January 1, 1970. The bill allows a coroner or medical examiner to issue a death certificate with a non-specific cause of death.

HB 129 Public assistance; expand temporary assistance for needy families eligibility criteria to pregnant women

By: Rep. Soo Hong (103rd)

Through the Public Health Committee

<u>Final Bill Summary</u>: HB 129 expands the eligibility criteria for temporary assistance for needy families (TANF) to pregnant women.

HB 155 Professions and businesses; issuance of licenses by endorsement for spouses of firefighters, healthcare providers, and law enforcement officers who relocate to Georgia; provide

By: Rep. Chuck Martin (49th) Through the Regulated Industries Committee

<u>Final Bill Summary</u>: HB 155 incorporates the definition of "firefighter" from O.C.G.A. 45-9-81, creates a new definition for "healthcare provider", and incorporates the definition of "law enforcement officer" from O.C.G.A. 45-9-81.

This bill requires professional licensing boards or other boards to issue a license by endorsement to an individual seeking licensure for a profession other than that of a firefighter, healthcare provider, or a law enforcement officer. To qualify, an individual must have: established residency in Georgia; hold a current license in another state to practice the profession; be in good standing in that state; and pass any examination that may be required to demonstrate knowledge of Georgia's laws.

This bill does not apply to licensing for the practice of law in Georgia, and does not override any licensing compact or permit the issuance of a license without verification under O.C.G.A. 50-36-1.

HB 162 Income tax; one-time tax credit for taxpayers who filed returns for both 2021 and 2022 taxable years; provide

By: Rep. Lauren McDonald (26th) Through the Ways & Means Committee

<u>Final Bill Summary</u>: HB 162 provides a one-time income tax refund equal to the lesser of either the taxpayer's 2021 income tax liability or \$250 for a taxpayer filing as single; \$375 for a taxpayer filing as head of household; or \$500 for a married couple jointly filing a return. The refund will not be made available to nonresident alien individuals, individuals claimed as a dependent during the 2021 and 2022 tax years, or an estate or trust.

HB 163 Georgia Board of Health Care Workforce; student loan repayment for medical examiners employed by the Division of Forensic Sciences of the Georgia Bureau of Investigation; provide By: Rep. Lauren McDonald (26th) Through the Higher Education Committee

<u>Final Bill Summary</u>: HB 163 establishes a student loan repayment program for full-time medical examiners employed with the Division of Forensic Sciences of the Georgia Bureau of Investigation. The total repayment amount must not exceed \$120,000 or the total student debt amount, whichever is less, and the payments will be paid in annual installments, for a period not exceeding five years. The Georgia Student Finance Authority is authorized to establish rules and regulations to implement the program, and the program is contingent upon the appropriation of funds by the General Assembly.

HB 188 Georgia Dangerous Sexual Predator Prevention Act; enact

By: Rep. Steven Sainz (180th) Through the Judiciary Non-Civil Committee

Final Bill Summary: HB 188 is known as 'Mariam's Law'.

Section 2-1 changes the name of the Sexual Offender Registration Review Board to the Sexual Offender Risk Review Board (SORRB).

Section 3-1 defines the term "sexual felony" to be a felony conviction of the following crimes: aggravated assault; kidnapping that involves a victim under the age of 14, except by a parent; sex trafficking; rape; aggravated sodomy; statutory rape; child molestation; aggravated child molestation; enticing a child for indecent purposes; improper sexual contact by employee or agent in the first or second degree or improper sexual contact by a foster parent in the first or second degree, unless the punishment was not subject to O.C.G.A. 17-10-6.2; incest; aggravated sexual battery; and sexual exploitation.

Any person who was previously convicted of a sexual felony who is convicted of aggravated assault with the intent to rape will be subject to imprisonment for life or a split sentence that is a term of imprisonment followed by probation for life. Electronic monitoring is imposed as a condition of probation.

- Section 3-2: Any person who was previously convicted of a sexual felony that is convicted of kidnapping is subject to imprisonment for life or a split sentence that is a term of imprisonment followed by probation for life that includes electronic monitoring as a condition of probation.
- Section 3-3: Any person who was previously convicted of a sexual felony that is convicted of human trafficking for sexual servitude is subject to imprisonment for life or a split sentence that is a term of imprisonment followed by probation for life that includes electronic monitoring as a condition of probation.
- Section 3-4: Any person who was previously convicted of a sexual felony that is convicted of rape is subject to imprisonment for life or a split sentence that is a term of imprisonment followed by probation for life that includes electronic monitoring as a condition of probation.
- Section 3-5: Any person who was previously convicted of a sexual felony that is convicted of aggravated sodomy is subject to imprisonment for life or a split sentence that is a term of imprisonment followed by probation for life that includes electronic monitoring as a condition of probation.
- Section 3-6: Any person who was previously convicted of a sexual felony that is convicted of statutory rape is subject to imprisonment for life or a split sentence that is a term of imprisonment followed by probation for life that includes electronic monitoring as a condition of probation.
- Section 3-7: Any person who was previously convicted of a sexual felony that is convicted of aggravated child molestation is subject to imprisonment for life or a split sentence that is a term of imprisonment followed by probation for life that includes electronic monitoring as a condition of probation.
- Section 3-8: Any person who was previously convicted of a sexual felony that is convicted of enticing a child for indecent purposes is subject to imprisonment for life or a split sentence that is a term of imprisonment followed by probation for life that includes electronic monitoring as a condition of probation.
- Section 3-9: Any person who was previously convicted of a sexual felony that is convicted of improper sexual contact by an employee, agent, or foster parent in the first or second degree is subject to imprisonment for life or a split sentence that is a term of imprisonment followed by probation for life that includes electronic monitoring as a condition of probation.

Section 3-10: Any person who was previously convicted of a sexual felony that is convicted of incest is subject to imprisonment for life or a split sentence that is a term of imprisonment followed by probation for life that includes electronic monitoring as a condition of probation.

Section 3-11: Any person who was previously convicted of a sexual felony that is convicted of aggravated sexual battery is subject to imprisonment for life or a split sentence that is a term of imprisonment followed by probation for life that includes electronic monitoring as a condition of probation.

Section 3-12 removes the crime for removing or inhibiting an electronic monitoring device who is required to wear it under O.C.G.A. 42-1-14, as a response in part to the Supreme Court of Georgia case Park v. State.

Section 3-13: Any person who was previously convicted of a sexual felony that is convicted of sexual exploitation of children is subject to imprisonment for life or a split sentence that is a term of imprisonment followed by probation for life that includes electronic monitoring as a condition of probation.

Section 4-1 changes the name of SORRB and requires that a defendant who was sentenced to probation submit to SORRB within 60 days of being sentenced for a risk assessment rather than the current requirement of 10 days.

Section 5-1 changes the name of SORRB.

Section 6-1 changes the name of SORRB and adds the crime of electronically furnishing obscene material to minors to the list of crimes defined as a "dangerous sexual offense" under O.C.G.A. 42-1-12(a)(10)(B.4).

Section 6-2 changes the name of SORRB.

Section 6-2A requires a sexual offender to be fitted for a location tracking device while on probation or parole and awaiting risk assessment classification when the offender has previously been convicted of a felony sexual offense, or the assigned community supervision officer determines that a special need exists for the offender due to an immediate danger to society the offender poses. Any costs of the location tracking device and monitoring are required to be paid by the offender. An offender can petition the superior court in which he or she resides for release from the location tracking requirements within 30 days, and the court can suspend the requirement if it finds by a preponderance of the evidence that the offender does not pose an immediate danger to society.

Section 6-3 repeals and replaces O.C.G.A. 42-1-14, which was previously ruled unconstitutional. The section clarifies the procedure for when a sexual offender moves from another state or territory to Georgia, the risk assessment process for sexually dangerous predators, and the timelines for when risk assessment evaluations need to be made by SORRB. A person receiving a Level II risk classification, or as a sexually dangerous predator, may request re-evaluation after 10 years from the initial classification and then once every five years thereafter.

Section 6-4 requires the court to refer a case to an officer of the circuit for investigation and recommendation prior to sentencing when a life sentence may be imposed because of a previous conviction for a sexual felony. SORRB is also required to determine the classification level of the defendant in writing and report that determination to the court. The findings will be provided to the prosecutor and defendant no later than 10 days prior to the sentencing hearing.

Section 6-5 requires the Department of Community Supervision to file a petition on behalf of a person who is on probation for life for a sexual felony after that person has served 10 years if: all restitution has been paid; probation has not been revoked; the probationer has not been arrested for anything other than a non-serious traffic offense; and the probationer has not been classified as a sexually dangerous predator by SORRB. Upon issuing an order terminating an offender's probation, the court will provide written notice to the local district attorney and the State Board of Pardons and Paroles regarding the court's intention, and the prosecuting attorney will be given an opportunity to be heard during the 30 days prior to the issuance of the termination order by the court. The provisions changed by this portion of the bill are retroactive to any probationer under the supervision of the Department of Community Supervision. If the petition is not granted, a petition will be filed every five years afterward until the probationer meets the requirements.

Section 6-6 changes the name of SORRB in a reference and allows the person who was convicted as a sexual offender to obtain supervision records of the Department of Community Supervision.

Section 7-1 states that this will apply to all offenses committed on or after July 1, 2023.

HB 189 Highways, bridges, and ferries; allowable variance for weight limitations upon a vehicle or load; provide for

By: Rep. Steven Meeks (178th) Through the Transportation Committee

<u>Final Bill Summary</u>: HB 189 provides for a 10 percent variance for trucks when hauling agricultural or farm products form a farm to the first point of marketing or processing within a 150 mile radius of the farm or point of origin, and must be outside of the 13 county metro Atlanta region.

When the weight of the vehicle is less than 93,000 pounds, a penalty of five cents per pound over the allowed weight limit, not including any variance, is assessed. When the weight is over the variance but less than 93,000 pounds, the penalty is five cents per pound over allowed weight limit, not including any variance. For loads greater than 93,000 pounds but less than 100,000 pounds, the penalty is 10 cents per pound for all excess over allowable weight, not including any variance. When weights equal or exceed 100,000 pounds, the penalty is 20 cents per pound for all excess over allowable weight not including any variance.

The bill provides for penalties based on axle weight and introduces penalties for those who operate a vehicle with a gross vehicle weight greater than the posted weight allowable on any bridge where GDOT has placed signs.

The legislation authorizes certified local law enforcement agencies to enforce weight limits on roadways within their jurisdiction.

Any variance granted within the legislation has a sunset provision through July 1, 2025.

HB 242 Georgia Driver's Education Commission; violation of traffic laws or ordinances under Joshua's Law; provide additional penalty

By: Rep. Bill Hitchens (161st) Through the Motor Vehicles Committee

<u>Final Bill Summary</u>: HB 242 reinstates the additional penalty for a traffic violation under 'Joshua's Law', setting it at three percent of the original fine.

HB 249 Education; needs based financial aid program; provide definition

By: Rep. Chuck Martin (49th) Through the Higher Education Committee

<u>Final Bill Summary</u>: HB 249 provides College Completion Grant eligibility to students who have completed 70 percent of a four-year program or 45 percent of a two-year program. The maximum award amount per eligible student is set at \$3,500, with no single payment exceeding \$2,500.

The bill provides free tuition for specified training programs that relate to the operation of a commercial motor vehicle for qualified participants who are U.S. armed forces veterans.

HB 268 Criminal Justice Coordinating Council; motor vehicle related crime prevention initiatives; establish grant program

By: Rep. John Corbett (174th) Through the Public Safety & Homeland Security Committee

<u>Final Bill Summary</u>: HB 268 establishes a grant program to provide funds from the criminal justice coordinating council to local law enforcement agencies and multi-jurisdictional task forces for the prevention, reduction, investigation, and prosecution of motor vehicle crimes. The bill establishes the Georgia Motor Vehicle Crime Prevention Advisory Board and the required membership. The board will solicit and review applications for the grants, and make recommendations to the council for awards. The new Code section created by the bill is repealed on December 31, 2030.

HB 302 Crimes and offenses; issuance of a temporary or permanent protective order by the court; provide

By: Rep. Lehman Franklin (160th) Through the Judiciary Non-Civil Committee

<u>Final Bill Summary</u>: HB 302 allows courts to issue either temporary or permanent protective orders to protect against conduct that constitutes stalking.

HB 311 Ad valorem tax; optional temporary tax relief to certain properties located in nationally declared federal disaster areas; provide

By: Rep. Lynn Smith (70th)

Through the Ways & Means Committee

<u>Final Bill Summary</u>: HB 311 amends O.C.G.A. 48-5-33, relating to ad valorem taxation of property, to create an optional temporary tax relief mechanism for buildings damaged by a natural disaster that may be utilized by local governments, pursuant to Article VII, Section I, Paragraph III(h) of the Georgia Constitution.

During a disaster response operation, the local emergency management director of an impacted area will travel to and assess whether buildings damaged by the disaster are qualified as either "major" or "destroyed". Assessments will be provided to the relevant county tax commissioners, who will identify eligible tax parcel numbers within the assessment before providing the assessment to each affected governing authority located within the disaster area.

Upon receipt of the report, a governing authority may adopt a resolution providing a defined amount of temporary tax relief to eligible damaged or destroyed buildings. The temporary tax relief may be offered in the form of either a millage rate reduction or a credit.

HB 340 Education; daily duty-free planning periods for teachers in grades six through twelve; provide By: Rep. John Corbett (174th) Through the Education Committee

<u>Final Bill Summary</u>: HB 340 amends O.C.G.A. 20-2-218 to protect planning periods for teachers. Teachers who are in the classroom more than 50 percent of a regular school day are required to have a duty-free planning period, with some exceptions related to safety.

The bill amends O.C.G.A. 48-7-29.21, relating to tax credits for qualified education donations for the purpose of awarding grants to public schools by extending the repeal date to December 31, 2026.

Local school board members are prohibited from discussing personnel matters with superintendents or other school personnel other than a referral of a personnel matter to the superintendent.

HB 374 Local government; municipal deannexation; repeal certain provisions

By: Rep. Brad Thomas (21st)

Through the Governmental Affairs Committee

<u>Final Bill Summary</u>: HB 374 provides guidelines and requirements for municipal deannexations. The bill prohibits deannexations that result in the formation of unincorporated islands or non-contiguous areas within the municipality.

The bill establishes the 'Landscape Equipment and Agricultural Fairness (LEAF) Act' which prohibits local prohibitions or regulations that distinguish or create differing standards for gasoline-powered leaf blowers from any other gasoline-powered, electric, or other type of leaf blower.

The bill prohibits governmental entities from adopting any policy that restricts the connection or reconnection of any utility service or sales of certain fuels based on the type of source of energy or fuel delivered or the appliance used by the customer.

HB 383 Safer Hospitals Act; enact

By: Rep. Matt Reeves (99th)

Through the Judiciary Non-Civil Committee

<u>Final Bill Summary</u>: HB 383 is known as the 'Safer Hospitals Act'. The bill defines the term "healthcare worker" as any employee or independent contractor of a hospital or other healthcare facility. Increased penalties are added when someone commits aggravated assault against a healthcare worker or an emergency health worker located on a hospital campus. The penalty is imprisonment between three and 20 years.

The bill increases penalties for committing aggravated battery against a healthcare worker or an emergency health worker located on a hospital campus. The penalty is imprisonment between three and 20 years.

A new chapter in the Code is created that defines "hospital", "hospital campus", and "hospital peace officer". The provisions allow a hospital guard to have arrest powers while on a hospital campus, and hospital security who are certified by the Georgia Peace Officer Standards and Training Council (POST) can be authorized by a hospital to carry a firearm or weapon. Each hospital that employs law enforcement are required to report to the Georgia Bureau of Investigation (GBI) and local law enforcement incidents of criminal gang activity that occurs on or adjacent to the hospital campus. The bill requires records not protected under a state disclosure law to be available for public inspection.

The bill is effective July 1, 2023.

HB 414 Mental health; grant program to aid service members, veterans, and their families; provide

By: Rep. Shaw Blackmon (146th) Through the Health Committee

<u>Final Bill Summary</u>: HB 414 creates the Veterans Mental Health Services Program, a competitive grant program administered by the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities. The grant program will provide behavioral health services to service members, veterans, or family members through non-profit community behavioral health programs.

HB 453 Health; ambulance services pay annual license fee; repeal requirement

By: Rep. Scott Hilton (48th)

Through the Public Health Committee

<u>Final Bill Summary</u>: HB 453 repeals the annual ambulance service license fee which is required for ambulance service providers.

HB 460 Courts; child's right to legal representation in legitimation cases; provide

By: Rep. Mandi Ballinger (23rd) Through the Juvenile Justice Committee

<u>Final Bill Summary</u>: HB 460 provides a right to counsel for a child who is the subject of a legitimation petition and a child who is party to a hearing to determine whether continuation or termination of a temporary guardianship is in the best interests of a child. Custodians or guardians who are subject to a sworn complaint or affidavit and any other respondent to a dependency proceeding have the right to an attorney at all stages of the dependency proceedings.

A child receiving extended care youth services from the Division of Family and Children Services is provided a right to counsel for all stages of dependency proceedings. The bill requires that affidavits or sworn complaints only be used when a child is taken into custody under exceptional circumstances.

A trial court can appoint an attorney for a child at all stages of proceedings for extended care youth services. The child will be provided notice of their right to an attorney and be given the opportunity to: use; waive the right; obtain an attorney of their choice; or obtain the court-appointed attorney at the court's discretion.

HB 528 Georgia Online Automatic Renewal Transparency Act; enact

By: Rep. Houston Gaines (120th) Through the Agriculture & Consumer Affairs Committee

<u>Final Bill Summary</u>: HB 528 the 'Georgia Online Automatic Renewal Transparency Act', relates to deceptive and unfair trade practices regarding the automatic monthly charges for a service or product. Companies must have a clear and conspicuous method of cancellation online if the company also allows consumers to accept an automatic renewal or continuous service online. The bill requires companies to provide consumers with notice if there is a material change in the terms of the renewal offer.

Section 2 of HB 528 the 'Georgia Online Third-Party Delivery Service Transparency Act' requires third-party delivery services to enter into a contractual relationship with a restaurant prior to offering food delivery or using the restaurant for marketing purposes.

Both sections of HB 528 go into effect on January 1, 2024.

HB 538 Georgia Early Literacy Act; enact

By: Rep. Bethany Ballard (147th) Through the Education Committee

<u>Final Bill Summary</u>: HB 538 creates the 'Georgia Early Literacy Act' to implement the science of reading in Georgia. School systems will be required to teach high-quality instructional materials approved by the State Board of Education in grades kindergarten through third grade.

The Department of Education must develop and provide training to kindergarten through third grade teachers on the science of reading so teacher have the skills and knowledge to teach young students to read. Students across the state will take a universal reading screener assessment to monitor their progress in foundational literacy skills multiple times a year.

The Department of Early Care and Learning must require teachers in all programs licensed or commissioned by the department to receive training on developmentally appropriate evidence based literacy instruction by July, 1 2025.

HB 611 Budgetary and financial affairs; disposition of state funds derived from certain legal judgments or settlements; provide

By: Rep. James Burchett (176th) Through the Budget and Fiscal Affairs Oversight Committee Final Bill Summary: HB 611 requires all funds from legal settlements entered into by the state or on its behalf by June 1, 2023, to be held by the state treasury until appropriated by the General Assembly.

HR 66 General Assembly; motor fuel and diesel fuel taxes; ratify Governor Brian P. Kemp's Executive Orders

By: Rep. Matthew Gambill (15th)

Through the Ways & Means Committee

<u>Final Bill Summary</u>: HR 66 ratifies executive orders issued by the governor between May 26, 2022 and January 10, 2023 related to suspension of the collection of motor fuel and diesel fuel taxes.

SB 3 "Reducing Barriers to State Employment Act of 2023"; enact

By: Sen. John Albers (56th)

Through the Governmental Affairs Committee

<u>Final Bill Summary</u>: SB 3 creates the 'Reducing Barriers to State Employment Act of 2023'. The act requires the Department of Administrative Services to regularly assess and reduce, when possible, the requirements for jobs within state government.

SB 44 Street Gang Terrorism and Prevention Act; mandatory minimum penalties for violations; provide

By: Sen. Bo Hatchett (50th) Through the Judiciary Non-Civil Committee

<u>Final Bill Summary</u>: SB 44 clarifies that it is unlawful for a person to indirectly through another person: cause, encourage, solicit, recruit, or coerce another to become a member of a criminal street gang; to participate in a criminal street gang; or to participate in criminal gang activity. The bill defines "dangerous weapon", "firearm", "hazardous object", and "leader". Under Section II, the default penalty for violating O.C.G.A. 16-15-4 is a felony with increased imprisonment of between five and 20 years, to be served consecutively with other sentences, and with a mandatory minimum of five years.

If a person recruits others to join a criminal street gang and the violation involves a person who is under 17 years old or a person who has a disability, then that person is subject to imprisonment of between 10 years and 20 years for a first offense, which must be served consecutively and with a mandatory minimum of 10 years. Upon a second or subsequent offense, the penalty is imprisonment of between 15 years and 25 years, which must be served consecutively and with a mandatory minimum of 15 years. A mandatory minimum sentence imposed under this offense is unable to be departed from by a court.

A court can only depart from a mandatory minimum sentence if a district attorney or the attorney general agree and the convicted person provides substantial assistance in the identification, arrest, or conviction, of other members of the criminal street gang. The individual must also meet five different requirements to be eligible, and if a judge departs from the mandatory minimum, then they must specify on the record the circumstances for the reduction. This decision is appealed by the state.

The bill adds an extra condition to when a judge can issue a bond on a person's own recognizance, or unsecured judicial release. To be eligible, the release must be noted on the release order. The person must not be charged with a bail restricted offense. The person must not have been convicted of an offense of bail jumping within the past five years. The person must not have had a bench warrant issued for their arrest based on a failure to appear within the past five years, unless the warrant was recalled or the offense was a nonserious traffic offense.

A person can contest their ineligibility for unsecured judicial release on the basis that their criminal history record is inaccurate, incomplete, or misleading. If it is contested, the prosecutor bears the burden of establishing the person's ineligibility. A judge can also issue an unsecured judicial release for pretrial release or diversion if it is noted on the release order and the person is not charged with a bail restricted offense. A judge is only required to consider the accused's criminal history record that is available at that time.

SB 47 Offenses Against Public Health And Morals; vaping in restricted areas is a misdemeanor punishable by fine; provide

By: Sen. Chuck Hufstetler (52nd)

Through the Public Health Committee

<u>Final Bill Summary</u>: SB 47 adds the smoking of electronic smoking or vaping devices to the 'Georgia Smokefree Air Act of 2005'.

SB 56 Ad Valorem Taxation; state revenue commissioner to contract with the board of the Employees' Retirement System of Georgia to offer certain county tax commissioners the option to participate in a state administered deferred compensation plan; require

By: Sen. Chuck Hufstetler (52nd)

Through the Retirement Committee

<u>Final Bill Summary</u>: SB 56 creates a deferred compensation plan for eligible county tax commissioners. Tax commissioners are eligible if they are not permitted to participate in a retirement system or deferred compensation offered by the county that utilizes a 401(k) or 457(b). The Employees' Retirement System of Georgia will administer the plan and the state will match contributions of up to 5 percent of the minimum annual salary for county tax commissioners.

The bill amends O.C.G.A. 48-1-2 relating to income tax definitions by providing an update to the definition of "Internal Revenue Code" and stipulating that Section 174 of the Internal Revenue Code be included with other sections that will be treated as they were in effect before Public Law 115-97 was enacted in 2017.

SB 56 amends O.C.G.A. 48-7-20, relating to individual income tax rates, by clarifying that on January 1, 2024, the income tax imposed will be 5.49 percent and can be reduced annually at a rate of 0.10 percent if certain conditions are met, beginning on January 1, 2025, until the rate reaches 4.99 percent. The bill adds O.C.G.A. 48-7-27.1 to allow for eligible itemizers, defined as eligible residents that choose to deduct certain itemized nonbusiness deductions, to receive a credit of \$300.

SB 56 amends O.C.G.A. 48-7-29.22, relating to tax credits for certain medical preceptor rotations, by extending the sunset provision from December 31, 2023 to December 31, 2026.

The bill amends 48-7-40.24, relating to tax credits for jobs associated with large-scale projects, by including a pandemic, defined as a disease outbreak that affects a significant portion of the population and impacts the ability to conduct business, to terms qualifying as "force majeure".

The bill amends Title 48, Chapter 8, relating to sales and use tax, by allowing for the imposition of sales and use tax on the retail purchase or sale of certain digital goods, products, and services to an end user. The sale must be for permanent use of the product and cannot be contingent on a reoccurring payment agreement.

SB 59 Governor; Office of the Inspector General; establish

By: Sen. Bo Hatchett (50th)

Through the Judiciary Committee

<u>Final Bill Summary</u>: SB 59 establishes the Office of the Inspector General, with its purpose to investigate the management and operation of agencies. It is assigned to the Office of the Governor for administrative purposes only as described in Code Section 50-4-3.

The inspector general will have jurisdiction over persons or agencies in the executive branch, as well as persons doing business with an agency or receiving state funding. The inspector general investigates

complaints alleging fraud, waste, or corruption committed against or within an agency in the state, in addition to other duties assigned by the governor.

When investigating, the inspector general is authorized to issue subpoenas, enter the premises of any agency at any time without prior announcement, and employ peace officers to obtain, serve, and execute search warrants. The bill compels agencies to cooperate with any investigation, and provides a cause for discipline to any employee who knowingly fails to comply with an investigation. Upon conclusion of the investigation, the inspector general will issue a report to the Office of the Governor.

SB 60 Secondary Metals Recyclers; it shall be illegal for certain persons to purchase, possess, obtain, or sell or attempt to purchase, possess, obtain, or sell; provide

By: Sen. Bo Hatchett (50th) Through the Judiciary Non-Civil Committee

<u>Final Bill Summary</u>: Section 1-1 of SB 591 amends O.C.G.A. 10-1-350 to create new definitions for "copper wire", "registered agent", "used communications copper", and "used utility wire".

Section 1-2 of the bill amends O.C.G.A. 10-1-351 to define the term "used, detached catalytic converter". The section also makes it a crime to purchase, solicit for the purchase of, or advertise for the purchase of a used, detached catalytic converter, or any non-ferrous metal parts of a catalytic converter, unless such person is a registered secondary metals recycler. Further, it is unlawful for any person to buy, possess, transport, or sell, a used, detached catalytic converter or any non-ferrous metal parts of a catalytic converter, unless such person is authorized to do so under O.C.G.A. 10-1-351(c) and is in possession of the required registrations and licenses. Each unlawfully possessed or obtained used, detached catalytic converter is a separate offense.

Section 1-3 requires secondary metals recyclers to maintain a record of the documentation of a cash transaction involving regulated metal property.

Under Section 1-4, secondary metals recyclers are allowed to pay in cash, but are prohibited from: paying any seller more than \$100 in cash for any transaction, limited to two per seller, per day, per registered location; and paying cash to any seller for catalytic converters or coils, used utility wire, used communications copper, copper wire, or a battery. This section does not apply to transactions between business entities, unless that transaction is related to catalytic converters.

Section 1-5 makes O.C.G.A. 10-1-358 applicable to catalytic converters, which relates to entities exempt from the Article 14, Chapter 1, of Title 10.

Section 1-6 allows a sheriff's office to: 1) charge \$200 for renewals of annual registrations of secondary metal recyclers; 2) require a valid business license; 3) require a registered agent to submit to a criminal background check and fingerprinting; 4) deny the registration or renewal if the person's registration has been revoked in another county, the information provided was false, or if the background check revealed a previous conviction of a metal theft offense more than three times in a five-year period; 5) revoke the registration of a secondary metal recycler's registered agent if the agent has been convicted of a felony in the previous five years under Title 10 ("Commerce and Trade"), Chapter 1 ("Selling and Other Trade Practices"), Article 14 ("Secondary Metals Recyclers"); 6) require secondary metals recyclers to provide a customer identification number for the current database contractor maintained by the Georgia Bureau of Investigation (GBI); and 7) require a secondary metals recycler to submit a signed and sworn statement saying the business license or registration has not been revoked during the past year, and that the agent has not been convicted of a metal theft offense in the previous year.

Section 1-7 adds a felony penalty when the regulated metal property is unlawfully obtained and results in aggregate property damage exceeding \$1,500. This section also clarifies that each unlawfully possessed or obtained used, detached catalytic converter is a separate offense.

Section 1-8 makes a used, catalytic converter that is possessed in violation of O.C.G.A. 10-1-351(d) and any vehicle used in the transportation of that catalytic converter subject to civil forfeiture.

Section 1-9 requires secondary metals recyclers to provide a statement to the GBI regarding whether their registration or business license has been revoked, suspended, or canceled in the previous year. The section also requires each recycler to submit to the GBI a receipt of each purchase of a used, catalytic converter or any nonferrous metal parts from an industrial account or secondary metal recycler. The report must include: the name and address of the seller; the date, time, and place of the transaction; and the number of used, detached catalytic converters purchased.

Part II removes limitations on how payments can be made for regulated metal property by secondary metal recyclers under O.C.G.A. 10-1-355.

Part III provides the effective dates of the bill. Part III and all of Part I, except for Section 1-4, are effective January 1, 2024. Part II is effective January 1, 2026.

SB 61 Sick Leave for Care of Immediate Family Members; sunset provision relating to such sick leave requirements; repeal

By: Sen. Brian Strickland (17th) Through the Industry and Labor Committee

<u>Final Bill Summary</u>: SB 61 repeals the sunset clause of the provision that requires employers who offer sick leave to employees to allow an employee to use that sick leave for the care of an immediate family member.

SB 62 Counties and Municipal Corporations; certain local ordinances or policies relating to public camping or sleeping; prohibit

By: Sen. Carden Summers (13th) Through the Governmental Affairs Committee

<u>Final Bill Summary</u>: SB 62 prohibits local governments from adopting or enforcing any policies that would prohibit the enforcement of any ordinance that prohibits unauthorized public camping, sleeping, or obstruction of sidewalks. The bill prohibits hospitals and local government entities from dropping off homeless individuals outside of their area of operation or jurisdiction, subject to specified exceptions.

The bill requires the state auditor to conduct a performance audit of homeless program spending in this state, including local government spending and the expenditure of federal funds. The audit must be provided to the governor, lieutenant governor, and speaker of the House of Representatives by December 31, 2023.

SB 86 Education; eligible students participating in the Dual Enrollment program to access HOPE career grant funds for certain CTAE courses; allow

By: Sen. Matt Brass (28th)

Through the Higher Education Committee

<u>Final Bill Summary</u>: SB 86 allows eligible dual enrollment students to access HOPE grant funds for eligible career, technical, and agricultural education (CTAE) courses. The bill requires reporting of specified information relating to the dual enrollment program.

SB 92 Prosecuting Attorneys Oversight Commission; create

By: Sen. Randy Robertson (29th) Through the Judiciary Non-Civil Committee

<u>Final Bill Summary</u>: SB 92 creates the Prosecuting Attorneys Qualifications Commission (PAQC). The PAQC consists of a five-member investigative panel with the members consisting of those with various amounts of experience as a district attorney (DA) or solicitor-general (SG), and whom are appointed by the governor, lieutenant governor, speaker of the House of Representatives, and Senate Committee on Assignments. The three-member hearing panel will consist of members with experience as a DA or SG, as well as a former judge with prior experience as a DA or SG, whom are appointed by the governor, a vote of the Senate, and a vote of the House of Representatives. All members must be appointed by July 1, 2023. The PAOC will end its investigation into any DA or SG when that person is under indictment.

The bill contains various grounds for discipline by the PAQC, including: mental or physical incapacity; willful misconduct in office; willful and persistent failure to carry out duties; conviction of a crime involving moral turpitude; conduct prejudicial to the administration of justice; and knowingly authorizing or permitting an assistant DA or assistant SG to commit any act constituting a ground for removal.

The PAQC can entertain a complaint on various grounds, including when a DA or SG has a stated policy that demonstrates that the DA or SG categorically refuses to prosecute any type of an offense or offenses. No complaints can be filed prior to October 1, 2023. If a DA or SG is removed, the individual is disqualified from being appointed or elected to either of the two positions in any county in the state for a period of 10 years.

The bill adds a duty for DAs and SGs, requiring the elected positions to review every case for probable cause, and to make a prosecutorial decision based on the law and facts of each individual case. The failure to perform these duties will constitute a ground for recall from the position.

The Act is effective upon approval by the governor.

SB 93 Information Technology; use of certain social media platforms on state equipment; restrict

By: Sen. Jason Anavitarte (31st)

Through the Public Safety & Homeland Security Committee

<u>Final Bill Summary</u>: SB 93 prohibits the use of social media on state-owned devices when the social media platform is owned or operated by a foreign adversary, or by a company which is domiciled in, has its headquarters in, or is organized under the laws of a foreign adversary. The prohibition also stands when a foreign adversary has substantial control over the content moderation practices of the platform or if the platform uses software or an algorithm that is controlled or monitored by a foreign adversary.

SB 106 "Healthy Mothers, Healthy Babies Act"; enact

By: Sen. Larry Walker III (20th) Through the Public Health Committee

<u>Final Bill Summary</u>: SB 106 creates a Medicaid program to provide remote maternal health clinical services to women with high-risk pregnancies through the Department of Public Health's pilot home visiting program.

SB 129 Primaries and Elections; time off for employees to advance vote; provide

By: Sen. Rick Williams (25th)

Through the Governmental Affairs Committee

<u>Final Bill Summary</u>: SB 129 allows the State Election Board to appoint members of county boards of elections, or county boards of elections and registration, to performance review boards. The bill clarifies the language that must be included on any absentee ballot application that is mailed to an elector by a nongovernmental entity.

The bill requires employers, upon reasonable notice, to provide time off for employees to vote during the period of advance voting. The bill extends the time limit from 10:00 p.m. to 11:59 p.m. for specified reporting requirements for election superintendents following the close of the polls on the day of an election. The bill clarifies the auditing requirements for local election superintendents following specified elections.

SB 131 Permanent Guardianship; service by publication; provide

By: Sen. Blake Tillery (19th)

Through the Juvenile Justice Committee

<u>Final Bill Summary</u>: Section 1 of SB 131 requires a guardianship petition hearing to be conducted in accordance with O.C.G.A. 29-2-18.

Section 2 adds requirements to the process of serving individuals related to a child who was adjudicated as a dependent child, and any other parties who appear to the court as proper or necessary to the proceeding.

Section 3 makes a conviction of a parent for murder or voluntary manslaughter of the other parent a mandatory basis for removing a child from the parent who was convicted.

Section 4 allows the court to exercise its discretion when determining the custody of a child and one parent was indicted for the offense of murder or voluntary manslaughter of the other parent.

SB 133 Juvenile Code; a uniform process to assume custody of children as a result of disposition orders; create

By: Sen. Brian Strickland (17th)

Through the Juvenile Justice Committee

<u>Final Bill Summary</u>: SB 133 clarifies procedures for when children are to be placed into the foster care system under the custody of the Division of Family and Children Services (DFCS), including through a child in need of services (CHINS) proceeding and a proceeding involving the disposition of a dependent child.

In a CHINS proceeding, a juvenile court must comply with the law related to a dual designation of a child, and it must hear or consider certain information, including what services have been provided to the child; what services are available to the child that could allow the child to remain in his or her home; what efforts have

been made to secure placement of the child other than in the custody of DFCS; and whether a child protective services report was made. The court must also comply with Title 15, Chapter 11, Article 3, prior to placing a child in the custody of DFCS on a nonemergency basis or in the absence of exceptional circumstances based on evidence provided at a disposition hearing. Once a child has been ordered into the custody of DFCS, the juvenile court must conduct a preliminary protective hearing within 72 hours after the placement. All parties to the CHINS case must provide copies of medical, psychological, and educational assessments, and reports of the child or the child's parent or guardian to DFCS within 72 hours after the ordering of custody.

In a disposition of a dependent child, a juvenile court must comply with the law related to a dual designation of a child, and it must hear or consider certain information, including what services have been provided to the child; what efforts have been made to secure placement of the child other than in the custody of DFCS; and whether a child protective services report was made. The court must also comply with Title 15, Chapter 11, Article 3, prior to placing a child in the custody of DFCS on a nonemergency basis or in the absence of exceptional circumstances based on evidence provided at a disposition hearing. Once a child has been ordered into the custody of DFCS, the juvenile court must conduct a preliminary protective hearing within 72 hours after the placement. All parties to the case must provide copies of medical, psychological, and educational assessments, and reports of the child or the child's parent or guardian to DFCS within 72 hours after the ordering of custody.

SB 140 Hospitals; the treatment of gender dysphoria in minors performed in hospitals and other licensed healthcare facilities; prohibit certain surgical procedures

By: Sen. Carden Summers (13th)

Through the Public Health Committee

<u>Final Bill Summary</u>: SB 140 prohibits the use of sex reassignment surgeries and hormone replacement therapies on minors in a licensed institution for the treatment of gender dysphoria. Exceptions include treatment of sex development disorders, androgen insensitivity syndrome, and other medical conditions. Additionally, minors who began hormone replacement therapies before July 1, 2023 are exempt. Licensed physicians in violation will be held administratively responsible by the medical board.

SB 146 Georgia Public Service Commission; regulation and taxation of the provision of certain electricity used as a motor fuel in electric vehicles; provide

By: Sen. Steve Gooch (51st)

Through the Technology and Infrastructure Innovation
Committee

<u>Final Bill Summary</u>: SB 146 amends the Code defining terms related to electric vehicles and adding language regarding the sale of electricity at electric vehicle charging stations, making it similar to the sale of gasoline. It gives regulatory authority over electric vehicle charging stations to the Department of Agriculture and clarifies that the supply of electricity by an electric utility to premises that are electric vehicle charging stations will be considered a sale at retail. The bill provides gallon-equivalent rates for electricity and hydrogen used as motor fuel and specifies that vehicles using these methods as a form of motor fuel are not exempt to public motor fuel and road taxes.

The provision of electric vehicle charging services will not violate the 'Georgia Territorial Electric Service Act', as long as it occurs on the same property as the charging station. The bill states that an electric utility may not provide, own, operate, or maintain any publicly available electric vehicle charging station, other than community charging equipment unless the station is provided through a separate legal entity that is not regulated by the Georgia Public Service Commission.

All electric vehicle charging providers will register with the commissioner before operating any electric vehicle charging station and do so annually thereafter. Certificates of registration and conformity will be prominently displayed at each charging station. All electric vehicle charging stations will be capable of accurately measuring and displaying upon the station or on a digital network the amount of electricity delivered to each electric vehicle on a per kilowatt-hour basis. Such stations will be further equipped with meters to record the total kilowatt-hours dispensed.

The commissioner of the Department of Agriculture may hire charging station inspectors and investigators, and is expected to enforce rules and regulations upon those employed. If a station is found to give inaccurate readings and the charging provider fails to make necessary adjustments, the station will be deemed inoperable until reapproved by the department. Those found to provide accurate readings will be marked with a seal by an authorized inspector. The department is given the power to implement rules necessary to carry out inspections in the manner provided in this Code. The bill makes it unlawful to tamper with an inspector-issued seal and outlines penalties for further violations.

SB 160 Employment Security; provisions

By: Sen. Shawn Still (48th)

Through the Industry and Labor Committee

<u>Final Bill Summary</u>: SB 160 revises the sunset clause of the statute authorizing the Department of Labor to collect required contributions from employers from 2022 to 2026, which lowers the required rate of contributions for new or newly covered employers to make into the unemployment insurance trust fund from 2.7 percent of wages to 2.64 percent of wages.

The bill reinstates the statute authorizing the Department of Labor to collect an administrative assessment of .06 percent of wages paid by an employer until January 1, 2027.

SB 211 Georgia Council on Literacy; establish

By: Sen. Billy Hickman (4th)

Through the Education Committee

<u>Final Bill Summary</u>: SB 211 creates the Georgia Council on Literacy to conduct a comprehensive review of birth to postsecondary literacy programs for the purpose of improving literacy outcomes of Georgia students. The council is composed of 30 members, will meet at least four times per year, and will dissolve December 31, 2026.

SB 218 Identification Cards; issuance of identification cards to persons completing a term of incarceration; provide

By: Sen. Michael Rhett (33rd)

Through the Public Safety & Homeland Security Committee

<u>Final Bill Summary</u>: SB 218 allows for the issuance of identification cards to persons who complete a term of incarceration. The bill requires the Department of Corrections to provide identifying information to the Department of Driver Services for the card.

The bill requires that when a person is released from confinement from the Department of Corrections, the department releases to the individual, with their consent, documents pertaining to the program history including; whether the person completed training requested by the Board of Pardons and Paroles; whether they completed programs recommended by the Department of Corrections; whether they obtained a state-approved high school equivalency diploma or other educational degree; and the person's institutional work record.

SB 220 'Georgia Farmland Conservation Act'; historic preservation

By: Sen. Russ Goodman (8th)

Through the Ways & Means Committee

<u>Final Bill Summary</u>: SB 220 amends Chapter 10 of Title 44 to create the Georgia Farmland Conservation Trust Fund. The trust fund may award matching grants to qualified easement holders to support farmland conservation, active farming and food production, or to purchase agricultural conservation easement. The trust fund may receive appropriations from the legislature, public or private grants, donations, or contributions, and other mitigation and farmland conservation funds. The commissioner of the Georgia Department of Agriculture will oversee disbursement of funds from the trust fund, and submit a report on the funds expended to the Office of Planning and Budget, the House Budget and Research Office, and the Senate Budget and Evaluation Office.

The bill creates the Georgia Farmland Advisory Council to advise and assist the Department of Agriculture with administration of the trust fund. The council will consist of the following 14 members: the commissioner of the Georgia Department of Agriculture; two members appointed by the governor; one member appointed by the lieutenant governor; one member appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives; four members appointed by the commissioner of the Department of Agriculture; the president of the Georgia Agribusiness Council; one member that serves as a dean at Colleges of Agriculture at the University of Georgia, Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College, or Fort Valley State University; the executive director of the Georgia Soil and Water Conservation Commission; the president of the Georgia Farm Bureau; and the Georgia state conservationist of the Natural Resources Conservation Service.

The council will meet at least quarterly to review and approve grants recommended by the Department of Agriculture, approve rules promulgated by the department, and recommend any changes related to program administration.

SB 222 Primaries and Elections; all costs and expenses relating to election administration are paid for with lawfully appropriate public funds; provide

By: Sen. Max Burns (23rd)

Through the Governmental Affairs Committee

<u>Final Bill Summary</u>: SB 222 requires all expenses related to conducting elections to be paid from lawfully-appropriated public funds. The bill prohibits local governments or election officials from accepting any contributions or donations for the purpose of conducting elections, subject to specified exceptions. The bill prohibits election superintendents, local governments, and boards of registrars from accepting grants or gifts related to conducting elections from any entity other than the State of Georgia or the federal government.

The bill establishes the State Election Board as a separate and distinct budget unit in the state budget, attached to the Office of the Secretary of State for administrative purposes only. The bill removes the State Election Board from the jurisdiction of the secretary of state and provides for appointment of an executive director of the State Election Board.

SB 246 Georgia Board of Health Care Workforce; student loan repayment for certain nursing faculty; provide

By: Sen. Mike Hodges (3rd)

Through the Higher Education Committee

<u>Final Bill Summary</u>: Senate Bill 246 provides for the establishment of Inclusive Postsecondary Education (IPSE) grants. The grants would be awarded to eligible Georgia students enrolled on or before July 1, 2028, in authorized IPSE programs at qualified postsecondary institutions in an amount equal to the current academic year undergraduate tuition at each student's qualified institution. Eligible students may also receive an additional IPSE grant to cover certain fees.

The bill authorizes the Georgia Board of Health Care Workforce to provide for the repayment of up to \$100,000 in student loans for eligible recipients serving as faculty members in eligible postsecondary nursing programs in this state.

SB 272 Courts; supplement the duties of administrative judges; Criminal Case Data Exchange Board; reestablish

By: Sen. John Kennedy (18th) Through the Judiciary Non-Civil Committee

<u>Final Bill Summary</u>: SB 272 reestablishes the Criminal Case Data Exchange Board, which was previously under the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council and later the Council of Superior Court Clerks to a board under the Judicial Council and its Administrative Office of the Courts. The board continues to have 19 members, and meetings can be called to order by the chairperson of the board, the designee to the board from the Judicial Council, the chief justice of the Supreme Court of Georgia, or the governor.

The board must fulfill multiple duties, including: participation in the review and improvement of the state's criminal case data exchange and management systems; make recommendations for the improvement of data sharing for the benefit of the public, employers, and law enforcement; provide regular advice and counsel to the Judicial Council of Georgia; regularly review and update uniform standards; and prepare a report by October 1 of each year detailing the board's progress, which will be sent to multiple parties, including the chairs of the Senate Judiciary Committee, the House Judiciary Committee, House Judiciary Non-Civil Committee, the Senate Appropriations Committee, and the House Appropriations Committee, by October 10 of each year.

The board will be required to conduct a review with experts in the field of criminal justice on the feasibility of a system for tracking and analyzing criminal history data related to recidivism, criminal plea agreements, and immunity defenses. The feasibility study will include a review of a system to track charges pertaining to human trafficking, and whether those charges resulted in convictions or resulted in pleas of lesser or related charges. This review will be required to be completed by December 1, 2024, at which point the board will deliver it to the required parties in the legislative, executive, and judicial branches.